October 25, 2007 Volume 1, Issue 2 FMD Parent Page

About FMD Parent Page
This publication is for parents
and guardians of Elementary
Students served in FMD
Classrooms. The information
and opinions included are not
necessarily those expressed
by the Schools.

This publication is by parents for parents and will be published at various times during the school year.

#### **Special Olympics Info**

January 31, Neisha of Bowling Green Parks and Rec will come and speak to us about

# "Getting Started in Special Olympics"

Kids can participate in swimming, track and field, basketball, and cheerleading. Please mark your calendar to come to the meeting at Natcher Elementary, January 31, 2008 at 6:30pm.

Neisha can be contacted at 393-3480.

For more Special Olympics information go to

www.soky.org

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#### TOPSoccer is a Success

TOPSoccer ended it's **TOPSoccer** first ended it's first season games with participants varying in age from 6-16. The Bowling Green City Varsity Soccer Team helped the players during each game as buddy players. The young athletes with physical or mental disabilities made new friends on and off the field, got to score goals, and took home

a team shirt. Gail Hiles, the woman bringing the program to Warren County, called the season a success. For information about the 2008 season Email gail.hiles@wku.edu OR 270-846-1683



Participants and Buddy Player for TOPS occer 2007

### Great Online Resource for Parents

From the Editor, Stacey Rose

Another small find that has made my life easier. I don't know how many of you send off cups and spoons and clothes that need to be labeled, but I spend a lot of time relabeling everything. The only place my permanent marker seems to stay permanently is my walls! Well, label no longer.

At Mabel's Labels you can order labels that will not wash off or wear off. You can order 45 custom labels for \$18.50. There are labels for clothes, toys, cups, and more.

The labels are also useful for allergy information or other important information that needs to follow your child around.

Find it on the web:

www.mable.ca

That's not a typo. It is www.mable.ca because it is from Canada.

Great baby gift too!

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## *'Welcome to Holland''* by Emily Perl Kingsley, 1987

I am often asked to describe the experience of raising a child with a disability - to try to help people who have not shared that unique experience to understand it, to imagine how it would feel. It's like this......

When you're going to have a baby, it's like planning a fabulous vacation trip - to Italy. You buy a bunch of guide books and make your wonderful plans. The Coliseum. The Michelangelo David. The gondolas in Venice. You may learn some handy phrases in Italian. It's all very exciting.

After months of eager anticipation, the day finally arrives. You pack your bags and off you go. Several hours later, the plane lands. The stewardess comes in and says, "Welcome to Holland."

"Holland?!?" you say. "What do you mean Holland?? I signed up for Italy! I'm supposed to be in Italy. All my life I've dreamed of going to Italy."

But there's been a change in the flight plan. They've landed in Holland and there you must stay.

The important thing is that they haven't taken you to a horri-

ble, disgusting, filthy place, full of pestilence, famine and disease. It's just a different place.

So you must go out and buy new guide books. And you must learn a whole new language. And you will meet a whole new group of people you would never have met.

It's just a different place. It's slower-paced than Italy, less flashy than Italy. But after you've been there for a while and you catch your breath, you look around.... and you begin to notice that Holland has windmills....and Holland has tulips. Holland even has Rembrandts.

But everyone you know is busy coming and going from Italy... and they're all bragging about what a wonderful time they had there. And for the rest of your life, you will say "Yes, that's where I was supposed to go. That's what I had planned."

And the pain of that will never, ever, ever, ever go away... because the loss of that dream is a very very significant loss.

But... if you spend your life mourning the fact that you didn't get to Italy, you may never be free to enjoy the very special, the very lovely things ... about Holland.

## Everybody Dance!

Step by Step is a new opportunity for special needs kids in Bowling Green. Hannah Hall, 2007 Greenwood High graduate, is offering a dance class in January.

The goals of the class are to create an activity

for exceptional children to participate on a regular basis, to give an opportunity for students to perform, to help students develop a new way of self expression, get kids moving and stretching, and most of all have fun!

The class will be on Friday afternoons or Saturday mornings, depending on interest and should begin late January. The classes are \$5 and scholarships are available according to need. For more information call Hannah Hall

"I was a peer tutor at Greenwood and was involved in the spring musicals...and I wanted to find a way to combine the two."

Hannah Hall

at 792-0721 or email hannah.hall452@wku. edu

### Ideas?

Do you have information that needs to be included in the FMD Parent Page? I would

love to include it in the next issue. Just email me: bgviolin@gmail.com

#### About the Editor

Stacey Rose has lived in Bowling Green for 21 years and is married with three girls. Her 9 year old, Annalee, is a special needs child. She attends Natcher Elementary. Stacey would love to get FMD parents together to increase Special Olympics participation.

#### How do I email a teacher?

In Bowling Green City Schools use the teacher's first name, a period, last name,@ bgreen.kyschools.us

vicki.writsel@bgreen.kyschools.us

In Warren County Schools use the teacher's first name, a period, last name, @warren.kyschools.us

mary.simmons@warren.kyschools.us